

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 CG-00 EUR-25 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 CEQ-02 COA-02 COME-00

EB-11 EPA-04 IO-14 NSF-04 SCI-06 FEA-02 ACDA-19 AEC-11

AGR-20 DOTE-00 FMC-04 INT-08 JUSE-00 OMB-01 OIC-04

TRSE-00 DRC-01 /236 W

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R 072017Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1290

INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 3782

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: LOS: ECUADOREAN VIEWS AND REACTIONS ON LOS MATTERS
AND FORTHCOMING CARACAS CONFERENCE

1. EMBOFFS CONDUCTED LENGTHY DISCUSSION JUNE 5 WITH
SENIOR FONOFF ADVISOR ON TERRITORIAL SOVEREIGNTY ISSUES,
AMBASSADOR TEODORO BUSTAMANTE MUNOZ. FOLLOWING SUMMARIZES
HIS COMMENTS ON VARIOUS SUBJECTS RAISED. AS HE IS MEMBER
OF PRE-CARACAS INTER-MINISTERIAL TEAM CURRENTLY MEETING
IN FONOFF ON DAILY BASIS, WE REGARD HIS REACTIONS AS
PROBABLY REFLECTING PRESENT GOE POSITIONS FAIRLY CLOSELY.

2. TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY FOR ADOPTION OF SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES:
ECUADOR WISHES TO AVOID RESORT BY LDC'S TO STEAMROLLER
TACTICS, RECOGNIZING THAT ANY POINT OF SUBSTANCE NOT
ACCEPTED BY MAJOR MARITIME POWERS WILL REPRESENT EMPTY
VICTORY FOR MAJORITY, HOWEVER LARGE. BUSTAMANTE DEVOTED
CONSIDERABLY TIME AND ELOQUENCE TO THIS POINT, SUGGESTING
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HEALTHY DEGREE OF CONCERN FOR LOS CONFERENCE RESULTS

WITHIN GOE. HE HOPED FOR FAVORABLE RESOLUTION THIS POINT AS FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS AT CARACAS. MENTIONED FAVORABLY THAT SOVIET LOS TEAM (QUITO 3066) HAD PUSHED SOLUTION REQUIRING ACCEPTANCE OF ANY SUBSTANTIVE POINT BY ALL OF THE VARIOUS INTEREST BLOCS INTO WHICH ATTENDING STATES WOULD NATURALLY FALL. BUSTAMANTE FORESAW STEERING COMMITTEE, IN WHICH ALL BLOCS WILL BE REPRESENTED, AS PLAYING KEY ROLE IN DEVELOPING THE KIND OF CONSENSUS ESSENTIAL TO AVOIDING BITTER DEBATES BEFORE THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE. IN THIS REGARD, BUSTAMANTE LAID GREAT STRESS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF A CALM AND CONSTRUCTIVE ATMOSPHERE TO THE ULTIMATE SUCCESS OF THE CONFERENCE.

3. FREEDOM OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH WITHIN COASTAL ECONOMIC-PREFERENCE ZONES: CONSIDERABLE RESERVE WAS EXHIBITED AND GOE APPARENTLY NOT PRESENTLY DISPOSED TO MAKE CONCESSIONS THIS POINT. UTILITY OF RESEARCH TO ECUADOR AND OTHER STATES NOT PREPARED TO MOUNT MAJOR SCIENTIFIC EFFORT RECOGNIZED BY GOE. HOWEVER, INFORMATION ABOUT RESOURCES MEANT DEGREE OF CONTROL OVER SAID RESOURCES. IF COASTAL STATE WERE TO HAVE JURISDICTION OVER THESE RESOURCES IT NEEDED TO HAVE CONTROL OVER DEVELOPMENT OF INFO REGARDING THE RESOURCES AND, THUS, POWER TO CONTROL SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION. POSITION AND REASONING BEHIND IT APPEARS REFLECTION OF TRADITIONAL ECUADOREAN MISTRUST OF FOREIGNERS AND ESPECIALLY MAJOR POWERS, BASED ON FEELING THAT IN CONTACTS THEREWITH, ECUADOR IS INEVITABLY THE VICTIMIZED AND EXPLOITED LOSER.

4. VESSEL SOURCE POLLUTION: BUSTAMANTE INDICATED ACCEPTANCE OF AND SUPPORT FOR CONCEPT OF INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS, DRAWING ON ANALOGY OF UTILITY AND NECESSITY OF PRESENT INTERNATIONAL AERONAUTICAL SAFETY AND NAVIGATIONAL NORMS.

5. PROVISIONAL APPLICATION OF SEABEDS AND FISHERIES REGIMES - CONCEPT AND REASONING BEHIND US INITIATIVE WAS FAVORABLY RECEIVED. HOWEVER, RESERVE WAS INDICATED OVER PROVISIONAL APPLICATION OF ONLY A PART OF ANY CONVENTION WHICH MIGHT RESULT FROM CARACAS (E.G. FISHERIES

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AND DEEP SEABED REGIME). IDEA WAS NOT REJECTED, BUT IT WOULD OBVIOUSLY BE SUBJECTED TO SHARP SCRUTINY WITHIN GOE.

6. COMPULSORY SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES: BUSTAMANTE REACTED FAVORABLY TO THIS POINT, AND WAS EQUALLY RECEPTIVE TO US SUGGESTION THAT A SPECIALIZED TRIBUNAL BE SET UP TO HANDLE LOS CASES. HE SEEMED INTRIGUED BY CONCEPT OF

OPENING TRIBUNAL TO PRIVATE PARTIES.

7. FREE NAVIGATION: BUSTAMANTE SPENT CONSIDERABLE TIME ATTEMPTING TO SMOOTH OVER THIS ISSUE BUT APPEARS THAT IT WILL BE MAJOR POINT OF CONFLICT IN OUR RESPECTIVE POSITIONS AT CARACAS. DISCUSSION WAS ACCOMPANIED BY PROTESTATIONS THAT ECUADOR FULLY REALIZES IMPORTANCE OF MARITIME ACCESS, ESPECIALLY TO SMALLER, TRADE-DEPENDENT STATES SUCH AS ITSELF, AND APPRECIATES STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE THIS ISSUE HAS TO MAJOR POWERS. NEVERTHELESS, IT WAS OBVIOUS THAT GOE IS STILL IMPALED ON TRADITIONAL ECUADOREAN CLAIM OF FULL SOVEREIGNTY, INCLUDING RIGHT TO CONTROL AERIAL AND SURFACE NAVIGATION, OUT TO 200 MILES. ONLY CONCESSIONS ADVANCED WERE ASSURANCE THAT TRADE-DEPENDENT NATION SUCH AS ECUADOR COULD NEVER IMPOSE UNREASONABLE RESTRICTIONS ON MERCHANT PASSAGE, AND THAT PERHAPS CERTAIN PASSAGES COULD BE DESIGNATED FOR NAVAL VESSELS.

8. STRAITS: BUSTAMANTE REPLIED WITH LITTLE OF SUBSTANCE ON STRAITS, TENDING TO CONFIRM OTHER INDICATIONS WE HAVE HAD THAT GOE AS YET HAS NOT STRONG FEELINGS THIS ISSUE AND IS STILL IN PROCESS OF FORMULATING ITS POSITION. HE DID HOWEVER MENTION PANAMA CANAL DURING COURSE OF STRAITS DISCUSSION AND DIRE CONSEQUENCES FOR ECUADOR IF USE OF CANAL WERE EVER ARBITRARILY DENIED TO ONE OR MORE NATIONS.

9. CONSULTATIONS: BUSTAMANTE MADE POINT OF MENTIONING THAT ECUADOR WOULD NOT ALLOW ITSELF TO BECOME "ISOLATED" AT CARACAS, AND THAT ITS POSITIONS WOULD BE TAKEN IN CONCERT WITH PERU, CHILE, ARGENTINA, BRAZIL AND URUGUAY. IN FACT, CONSULTATIONS WITH DELEGATES FROM THESE COUNTRIES ARE PLANNED IN CARACAS JUST BEFORE THE CONFERENCE OPENS.

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10. COMPOSITION OF DELEGATION: GOE DELEGATION WILL HAVE FOUR MEMBERS, EIGHT ADVISORS AND A SECRETARY. HEAD OF DELEGATION WILL BE LUIS VALENCIA RODRIGUEZ, ECUADOREAN AMBASSADOR TO BRAZIL. OTHER DELEGATES WILL BE LUIS PONCE ENRIQUEZ, HEAD OF FONOFF PERMANENT STUDY, RESEARCH AND ADVISORY COMMISSION; CDR. RODRIGO RIVADENEIRA SUAREZ, UNDERSECRETARY FOR FISHERIES, MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES; AND DOCTOR RAFAEL GARCIA VELASCO, ADVISOR ON INTERNATIONAL MARITIME MATTERS WITHIN THE MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES. AVAILABLE BIO ON FOREGOING DELEGATES, PLUS DELEGATION ADVISORS AND SECRETARY WILL BE SUPPLIED BY SEPARATE MESSAGE.
BREWSTER

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